

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 207262 TOSEC 220015

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:SESTEINER:MDJ
APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SESTEINER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 207262 TOSEC 220015

EXDIS WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS SECRETARY KISSINGER

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAIRO FROM TEL AVIV
AUG 20:

QUOTE S E C R E T TEL AVIV 5710

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, IS, EG, US
SUBJECT: ISRAELI INTERFERENCE WITH AMOCO OPERATIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: STATE 207252

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTTEL, I SOUGHT APPOINTMENT
THIS MORNING WITH FONMIN ALLON TO DISCUSS LATEST TURN IN AMOCO CASE.
ALLON WAS IN GALILEE ATTENDING FUNERAL AND ACCORDING TO FONOFF
NOT ACCESSIBLE UNTIL EVENING.

2. ACCORDINGLY I DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH EVRON--HIGHEST RANKING FONOFF
OFFICIAL AVAILABLE--ALONG LINES HABIB DEMARCHE TO BAR-ON.
I TOLD EVRON THAT WE HAD CONVEYED TO AMOCO ISRAELI POSITION
CONCERNING SITE 304-1, THAT AMOCO NONETHELESS INTENDS TO PROCEED
WITH ORIGINAL DRILLING PLANS, AND THAT WE URGED THE ISRAELIS NOT
TO INTERFERE WITH AMOCO'S OPERATIONS. IN RESPONSE, EVRON REITER-
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ATED POSITION CONVEYED TO HABIB BY BAR-ON, POINTING OUT THAT

ISRAELI GOVT FEELS STRONGLY THAT IT CANNOT JEOPARDIZE ITS
LEGAL POSITION IN THE GULF AND EXHIBIT WEAKNESS WHICH MIGHT HAVE
UNFORTUNATE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES AND THAT AMOCO SHOULD BE
AGAIN URGED TO CONFINE ITS OPERATIONS WEST OF THE MEDIAN LINE.
I TOLD EVRON THAT OUR COMPELLING CONCERN AT THE MOMENT SHOULD
BE TO AVOID ACTIONS IN THE GULF WHICH WOULD CREATE SERIOUS
PROBLEMS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, AND I ASKED HIM TO
CONVEY THIS POSITION TO HIS FONMIN SOONEST, STRESSING THAT I
HAD SOUGHT APPOINTMENT WITH ALLON PERSONALLY IN ORDER TO
UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO ISSUE. EVRON SAID HE WOULD
DO SO.

3. I FEAR DESPITE EFFORTS IN WASHINGTON AND HERE THAT WE FACE
UNPLEASANTNESS IN THE GULF. AS SO OFTEN IN THE PAST BOTH
SIDES ARE BEHAVING LIKE CHILDREN. TOON UNQUOTE ROBINSON

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE207262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:SESTEINER:MDJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760319-0974
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760833/aaaabcmr.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 207252
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI INTERFERENCE WITH AMOCO OPERATIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, IS, EG, US, AMOCO
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006